Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 17 Mar 2023 until 23:59 on Saturday 18 Mar 2023

Forecast Issued on Thursday 16 Mar 2023 at 17:03 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Generally moderate confidence, main uncertainties Friday extent of cloud breaks and afternoon showers. Low for details on Saturday, particularly wind strength, and timing of rain Monday.

Headline for Friday 17 Mar 2023: Low cloud and patchy rain in the morning, drier brighter afternoon.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 17 Mar 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Drizzle	Drizzle	Light rain	Light rain	Light rain showers	Light rain showers	Cloudy	Fog
Precipitation probability							
60%	60%	60%	60%	20%	20%	10%	10%

Forecast for Friday 17 Mar 2023

Weather: Low cloud and some patchy rain through the early hours and morning. Rain most persistent near the west coast. Drier in the afternoon, with some brightness in the south, but a few showers too. Most hills dry but cloudy in the evening, a few coastal showers in the west.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% or less in the northwest, 20% improving 50% in the southeast

Low cloud and visibility: Very poor visibility across the Cuillins and hills further north with extensive cloud down to around 400m, lifting to 600m in the afternoon. Further south, frequent cloud above 500m in the morning, but increasing chances of cloud breaks in the afternoon. Best chance towards the Great Glen.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 17 Mar 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	27/33 SW	25/30 SW	22/28 SW	16/19 SW	17/20 SW	13/16 SW	9/11 NE	14/19 E	17/23 E
900	25/31 SW	23/29 SW	21/27 SW	14/17 SW	14/18 SW	12/15 SW	7/10 NE	14/20 E	17/23 E
600	14/20 SW	13/19 SW	13/18 SW	9/12 SW	9/13 SW	7/10 SW	5/8 NE	12/18 E	15/21 E
300	2/23 SW	3/20 SW	3/18 SW	2/12 W	2/12 W	2/10 SW	2/5 NE	6/15 E	8/18 E
Glen	5/17 SW	4/11 W	5/14 SW	3/8 W	3/8 W	3/6 W	4/6 N	11/16 E	12/18 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	2/-4	2/-4	2/-4	2/-3	3/-3	3/-2	2/-1	1/-4	1/-5
900	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3	3/-2	3/-2	3/-1	3/-0	2/-3	1/-4
600	5/1	5/1	4/0	4/1	5/2	5/3	4/2	4/-0	4/-1
300	5/4	6/4	5/4	5/4	6/5	6/5	6/5	4/2	4/1
Glen	8/7	8/7	8/6	8/7	8/8	9/8	8/8	7/5	7/4
Freezing Level*	1400m	1400m	1400m	1400m	1400m	1400m	1300m	1400m	1500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Mountain streams likely to be high from snow melt, perhaps making some crossings hazardous.

Forecast for Saturday 18 Mar 2023
Weather: Dry but cloudy inland through the early hours, but rain increasing along the west coast. Outbreaks of rain spread northeast in the morning and early afternoon. Turning drier and notably colder in the evening, although some showers, mainly in the northwest, falling as snow above 600m.

Maximum wind: Southeast 15 mph, becoming South-Southwest 25-30 mph in the afternoon, then Northwest 20 mph in the evening. Winds may strengthen to 40 mph, gusting 50 mph at munro level towards midnight.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% or less for much of the day.

Low cloud and visibility: Very poor visibility, extensive cloud down to 500-600m, occasionally lower. Cloud may briefly lift at times, most likely in the northwest during the morning and southeast in the evening, but any breaks unreliable.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 6 or 7 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 3 or 4 Celsius, falling to zero late evening.
Freezing level: Just above the summits, falling to 800m in the evening.

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